



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Russ Guiney, Director

John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director

Executive Offices • 433 South Vermont Avenue • Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975 • (213) 738-2961

June 04, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

42 June 4, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE THE REQUEST TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE LOS ANGELES
COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR COUNTY SPECIFIED AND
EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO FUND VARIOUS
PROJECTS
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to submit grant applications to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for County Specified and Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, in the amount of \$1,213,000 to fund various projects.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed projects listed below categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the projects
2. Approve the request to submit grant applications to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for County Specified Funds, after the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority assigns its rights to apply to the Department of Parks and Recreation, and for Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, in the collective amount of \$1,213,000 to fund various projects.
3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, as agent of the County, to accept grant funds, execute agreements, conduct all negotiations, and submit all

documents, including, but not limited to, amendments, Memorandum of Unrecorded Grant Agreement, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to submit grant applications to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) for County Specified and Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), in the amount of \$1,213,000, to fund various projects as follows:

LA River Tributaries and San Gabriel Foothills Trail Mapping and Signage Project (\$668,000)

The proposed project is located along the Rio Hondo River Trail, San Gabriel River Trail, San Jose Creek Trail, Santa Anita Wash Trail, Schabarum-Skyline Trail, Van Tassel Trail and the Nature Center Trail at the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area. The scope of work will consist of a comprehensive assessment to map approximately 61 miles of trails to determine the type and location of signage; fabricate and install signs; integrate trails data into the Department's new internet and mobile trails website; and prepare trail, community and regional maps. The estimated total project cost is \$760,000. The project will be partially funded with \$668,000 of County Specified Funds and supplemented with \$92,000 in First District Discretionary Funds.

Pellisier Village Equestrian Trailhead Project (\$545,000)

The proposed project is located at the intersection of Pellisier Road and the San Gabriel River Trail. The scope of work will consist of approximately 1,920 linear feet of existing trail and trailhead improvements, trailhead, and signage installation. The total project cost is \$545,000 and will be fully funded with County Excess Funds.

In a related action on today's agenda, RPOSD is recommending the allocation of \$1,213,000 in County Specified and Excess Funds for the various projects described above to the Department.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) by enhancing health promoting activities in the First Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed projects will be partially funded with \$1,213,000 in County Specified and Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District. Sufficient appropriation for the grant is budgeted in the First Supervisorial District's portion of RPOSD's Excess Funds Project Fund. In addition, net County cost for the Whittier Narrows Equestrian Center Project is available.

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

The recommended actions allow the Department to apply for grant funding to achieve the various projects as previously mentioned. Additional operating costs may materialize from the project provisions, but will be dependent on approval and award of the grants. The Department will re-

evaluate each project and identify any additional costs upon acceptance of grant funds, and address them in its New Facilities request.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The Department has met this requirement.

County Counsel has approved this Board Letter as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed LA River Tributaries and San Gabriel Foothills Trail Mapping and Signage Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project, which consists of a comprehensive signage program, including fabrication and installation, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Class 3(b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of small new facilities or structures.

The proposed Pellisier Village Equestrian Trailhead Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of improvements to approximately 1,920 feet of trail and trailhead, and installation of signage, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15303(e), and 15304(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 1 (c), 3(b), and 4(a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves restoration and repair of existing facilities, construction of small new facilities or structures, and minor alterations in the condition of land.

The proposed projects above include no expansion of an existing use, meaning structures replaced will be located on the same site as existing structures and will have the same purpose and capacity, and the proposed projects will not involve the removal of healthy, mature or scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed projects are not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed projects records.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects or services in the First Supervisorial District.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

6/4/2014

Page 4

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", with a stylized, flowing script.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:FP:lr

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors